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WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

OCTOBER 1989



DILHR

DEPARTMENT OF
INDUSTRY, LABOR & HUMAN RELATIONS

WISCONSIN DATA AND SOURCES

INDICATOR	SOURCES
L1 Composite Index of Leading Indicators	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L2 Average Work Week, Manufacturing	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L3 Average Overtime Hours, Mfg	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L4 Average Weekly Initial Claims	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L5 Total Job Openings Received	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
L6 New Business Incorporations	Wisconsin Secretary of State
L7 Net Gain in Business Phone Access Lines	Wi. Telephone Co. and General Telephone Co.
L8 Building Plans Examined	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
C1 Help-Wanted Advertising Index (Milw.)	National Industrial Conference Board
C2 Total Unemployment Rate	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
C3 Natural Gas Sales	Wisconsin Public Service Commission
C4 New Car Registrations	Wi. Dept. of Transportation
C5 Electric Power Sales	Wisconsin Public Service Commission
C6 Total Security Registrations	Wisconsin Commissioner of Securities
C7 Manufacturing Employment	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
C8 Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
C9 Cash Receipts From Farm Marketing	U.S. Department of Agriculture
C10 Contract Construction Employment	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
X1 Birth Registrations	Wi. Dept. of Health and Social Services
X2 Death Registrations	Wi. Dept. of Health and Social Services
X3 Natural Net Gain in Population	Wi. Dept. of Health and Social Services
X4 Marriage Registrations	Wi. Dept. of Health and Social Services
X5 Consumer Price Index (Milwaukee)	U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
X6 Index of Prices Received By Farmers	Wisconsin Department of Agriculture
X7 Net Gain in Residential Phone Access Lines	Wi. Telephone Co. and General Telephone Co.
X8 Labor Disputes, No. of Workers	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
X9 Unemployment Compensation Exhaustees	Wi. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations

NOTES: Selected series are seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of the Census
 *X-11 Variant of the census Method 11 Seasonal Adjustment Program.

SECTION A is a summary of recent data and current changes for all indicators and is presented in chart form. The indicators are presented with cyclical timing as the principle basis of classification.

SECTION B is a summary of Wisconsin Labor Force Estimates, including Employment, Unemployment and Unemployment Rates, and selected U.S. data.

SECTION C analyzes the Wisconsin labor force by industry and by specified Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

SECTION D singles out certain economic time series as being leading or coinciding in relation to movements in aggregate economic activity. They are seasonally adjusted and presented graphically.

COVER PHOTO: Courtesy of Wisconsin Division of Tourism Development

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

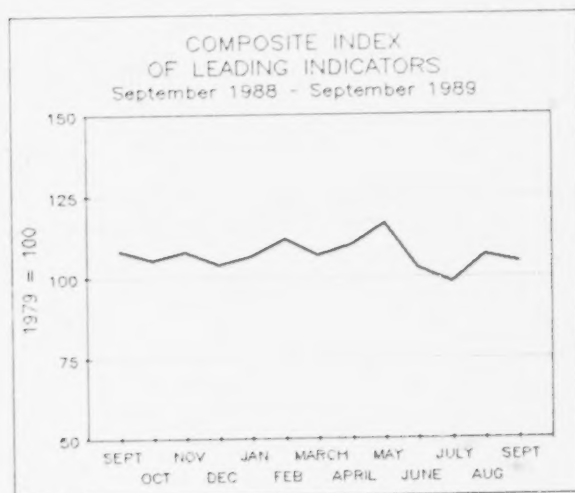
SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER

COMPOSITE INDEX

The Composite Index of Wisconsin's leading economic indicators slipped by 2.3 points in September, registering 104.3 for the month. The various indicators were mixed; thus, no strong economic trend is apparent.

The total number of job openings received by public Job Service offices dropped by over twenty percent. However, in the month earlier, the job openings level was unusually high.

Growth in the average workweek, in overtime hours in manufacturing, and in the net gain of business telephone access lines buoyed the index from a deeper plunge.



LEADING INDICATORS

The average workweek for production workers throughout Wisconsin increased by six-tenths of an hour. The average workweek in September rose to 42.3

hours, the highest level since the end of 1987. The workweek normally does increase in September, but an increase of about four-tenths of an hour would have been seasonally normal.

The average weekly overtime also increased in September. The weekly average grew from 4.0 to 4.6 hours, well above the normal seasonal growth.

Somewhat offsetting the longer workweek was a decrease in the manufacturing employment level during September. Some, but not all, of the employment decrease is normal for this month. Even with the employment loss, the total labor input into manufacturing, hours times employment, increased for the month.

The average weekly initial claims for unemployment compensation decreased in September by over four hundred. While September's claims count is the lowest monthly average this year, initial claims usually plunge at this time. Consequently, this September's initial claims decline is slightly below par.

The number of job openings received by public Job Service offices throughout the state decreased by over 3,600 in September. That is a large decrease and comes in a month which normally has a slight increase of job orders. However, the job orders in the previous month were unusually high.

The number of new business incorporations decreased by 74 in September. Some of that decrease is seasonally related, but only a small portion.

The net gain in business telephone access lines grew by over five hundred - better than the normal seasonal trend for September.

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WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	UNIT	MONTHLY SERIES			% CHANGE		AVG.	
		Latest Month	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago	1988	
LEADING INDICATORS								
L1 COMPOSITE INDEX OF LEADING INDICATORS								
Seasonally Adjusted	Index	SEPT	104.3	106.6	108.1	-2.2%	-3.5%	97.9
L2 AVG. WORK WEEK, MFG.								
Unadjusted	Hours	SEPT	42.3	41.3	41.9	2.4%	1.0%	41.7
Seasonally Adjusted			42.1	41.5	41.7	1.4%	1.0%	
L3 AVG. OVERTIME HOURS, MFG.								
Unadjusted	Hours	SEPT	4.6	4.0	4.6	15.0%	0.0%	4.1
Seasonally Adjusted			4.1	3.7	4.1	10.8%	0.0%	
L4 AVG. WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	4599	5009	3975	-8.2%	15.7%	6833
Seasonally Adjusted			7130	7035	6159	1.4%	15.8%	
L5 TOTAL JOB OPENINGS RECEIVED								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	7598	11247	9626	-32.4%	-21.1%	8063
Seasonally Adjusted			5765	9005	7304	-36.0%	-21.1%	
L6 NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	508	582	521	-12.7%	-2.5%	595
Seasonally Adjusted			556	631	570	-11.9%	-2.5%	
L7 NET GAIN IN BUSINESS TELEPHONE ACCESS LINES								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	3416	2849	2668	19.9%	28.0%	2471
Seasonally Adjusted			2566	2482	2288	3.4%	12.2%	
L8 BUILDING PLANS EXAMINED								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	609	687	685	-11.4%	-11.1%	613
Seasonally Adjusted			573	601	645	-4.7%	-11.2%	
COINCIDING INDICATORS								
C1 HELP-WANTED INDEX (MILW.)								
Seasonally Adjusted	Index	SEPT	73	74	88	-1.4%	-17.0%	97
C2 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, TOTAL								
Unadjusted	Percent	SEPT	4.1	3.8	3.5	.....	.....	4.3
Seasonally Adjusted			4.4	4.3	3.8	.....	.....	
C3 NATURAL GAS SALES								
Unadjusted	Mil.	AUG	56.6	54.7	69.0	3.5%	-18.0%	190.9
Seasonally Adjusted	Therms		141.1	141.0	172.2	0.1%	-18.1%	
C4 NEW CAR REGISTRATIONS								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	19,168	15,348	14,074	24.9%	36.2%	14,734
Seasonally Adjusted			17,815	13,470	13,085	32.3%	36.1%	
C5 ELECTRIC POWER SALES								
Unadjusted	Mil. KWH	AUG	3759.5	3744.4	2710.8	0.4%	38.7%	2397.3
Seasonally Adjusted			3550.0	3454.2	2559.2	2.8%	38.7%	
C6 TOTAL SECURITIES REGISTRATIONS								
Unadjusted	Mil. Dol.	AUG	54.3	242.7	145.6	-77.6%	-62.7%	156.1
Seasonally Adjusted			59.6	256.8	159.9	-76.8%	-62.7%	

Section

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WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	UNIT	MONTHLY SERIES			% CHANGE		AVG.	
		Latest Month	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago	1988	
C7 MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT								
Unadjusted	Thous.	SEPT	561.3	566.4	562.1	-0.9%	-0.1%	550.7
Seasonally Adjusted			549.8	552.0	550.8	-0.4%	-0.2%	
C8 AVG. WEEKLY EARNINGS, MFG.								
Unadjusted	Dollars	SEPT	\$452.19	\$439.85	\$443.72	2.8%	1.9%	\$443.48
Seasonally Adjusted			\$455.84	\$452.99	\$447.25	0.6%	1.9%	
C9 CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARM MKTG.								
Unadjusted	Mil. Dol.	JULY	434.6	415.1	408.4	4.7%	6.4%	408.6
Seasonally Adjusted			442.6	437.4	415.8	1.2%	6.4%	
C10 CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION EMPL.								
Unadjusted	Thous.	SEPT	82.5	82.7	76.9	-0.2%	7.3%	71.5
Seasonally Adjusted			73.9	72.7	68.9	1.7%	7.3%	
OTHER KEY INDICATORS								
X1 BIRTH REGISTRATIONS								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	5734	6574	6794	-12.8%	-15.6%	5905
Seasonally Adjusted			5415	6483	5519	-16.5%	-1.9%	
X2 DEATH REGISTRATIONS								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	3028	3262	3211	-7.2%	-5.7%	3632
Seasonally Adjusted			3181	3489	3373	-8.8%	-5.7%	
X3 NATURAL NET GAIN POPULATION								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	2706	3312	2635	-18.3%	2.7%	2274
Seasonally Adjusted			2238	2843	2180	-21.3%	2.7%	
X4 MARRIAGE REGISTRATIONS								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	4780	4446	4997	7.5%	-4.3%	3468
Seasonally Adjusted			3228	2982	3373	8.2%	-4.3%	
X5 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX			(Jun '89)	(Dec '88)	(Jun '88)			
Unadjusted (1982-1984 = 100)	Index	JUNE	120.3	117.2	114.5	2.6%	5.1%	115.9
X6 PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS								
Unadjusted	Index	SEPT	149	147	142	1.4%	4.9%	135
Seasonally Adjusted			146	147	139	-0.7%	5.0%	
X7 NET GAIN IN RESIDENTIAL TELEPHONE ACCESS LINES								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	10586	3392	7740	212.1%	36.8%	2208
Seasonally Adjusted			2043	1584	2373	29.0%	-13.9%	
X8 LABOR DISPUTES, NO. OF WORKERS								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	311	71	511	338.0%	-39.1%	107
Seasonally Adjusted			105	38	172	176.3%	-39.0%	
X9 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXHAUSTEES								
Unadjusted	Number	SEPT	10,237	10,981	12,672	-6.8%	-19.2%	14102
Seasonally Adjusted			10,414	10,840	12,887	-3.9%	-19.2%	

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SEPTEMBER	(In Thousands)			% CHANGE	
	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago
Unadjusted					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	2633.0	2636.3	2589.3	-0.1%	1.7%
Employment (incl. Labor Disputes)	2525.5	2535.2	2499.1	-0.4%	1.1%
Unemployment	107.5	101.1	90.2	6.3%	19.2%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	3.8	3.5	.....	.....
Seasonally Adjusted					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	2628.4	2606.6	2583.1	0.8%	1.8%
Employment (incl. Labor Disputes)	2512.9	2495.3	2486.2	0.7%	1.1%
Unemployment	115.5	111.3	96.9	3.8%	19.2%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.3	3.8	.....	.....

WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES SEPTEMBER	(In Thousands)			% CHANGE	
	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago
Unadjusted					
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS	2222.9	2214.9	2182.0	0.4%	1.9%
Manufacturing	561.0	566.3	561.6	-0.9%	-0.1%
Mining	2.8	2.9	2.5	-3.4%	12.0%
Contract Construction	82.5	82.7	76.9	-0.2%	7.3%
Transportation and Public Utilities	102.4	98.8	100.2	3.6%	2.2%
Electric, Gas and Sanitary Services	17.4	17.8	17.2	-2.2%	1.2%
Wholesale Trade	112.5	114.1	109.0	-1.4%	3.2%
Retail Trade	414.4	417.3	405.6	-0.7%	2.2%
General Merchandise	47.8	48.2	48.4	-0.8%	-1.2%
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	120.1	121.2	115.9	-0.9%	3.6%
Banking	28.3	28.5	27.6	-0.7%	2.5%
Insurance	42.4	42.7	40.6	-0.7%	4.4%
Service and Miscellaneous	498.5	501.6	487.9	-0.6%	2.2%
Hospitals	74.7	74.6	72.7	0.1%	2.8%
Private Education	23.8	22.5	24.7	5.8%	-3.6%
Government	328.7	310.0	322.4	6.0%	2.0%
State Government	87.2	81.7	82.1	6.7%	6.2%
Local Government	212.3	198.7	210.8	6.8%	0.7%

UNITED STATES LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES OCTOBER	(In Thousands)			% CHANGE	
	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago
Seasonally Adjusted					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	124,105	124,040	122,091	0.1%	1.6%
Employment (incl. Labor Disputes)	117,545	117,456	115,573	0.1%	1.7%
Unemployment	6,561	6,584	6,518	-0.3%	0.7%
Unemployment Rate	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	.....	.....

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT Unadjusted SEPTEMBER	(In Thousands)			% CHANGE	
	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago
All Manufacturing (Incl. Canning)	561.0	566.3	561.6	-0.9%	-0.1%
All Manufacturing (Excl. Canning)	543.5	548.4	544.5	-0.9%	-0.2%
Durable Goods	336.8	338.4	342.6	-0.5%	-1.7%
Lumber and Wood Products (Excl. Furniture)	28.8	29.2	29.0	-1.4%	-0.7%
Furniture and Fixtures	11.8	12.0	11.9	-1.7%	-0.8%
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	9.5	9.8	9.7	-3.1%	-2.1%
Primary Metal Industries	22.5	22.8	22.5	-1.3%	0.0%
Iron and Steel Foundries	11.6	11.7	11.3	-0.9%	2.7%
Fabricated Metal Products	60.3	60.0	58.3	0.5%	3.4%
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	14.6	14.4	14.5	1.4%	0.7%
Metal Stampings	11.6	11.5	11.2	0.9%	3.6%
Machinery (Excl. Electrical)	107.6	107.5	108.4	0.1%	-0.7%
Engines and Turbines	16.9	16.5	20.1	2.4%	-15.9%
Farm Machinery and Equipment	13.0	12.8	13.0	1.6%	0.0%
Constr., Mining, Material Handling Machinery	11.6	11.7	11.4	-0.9%	1.8%
Metalworking Machinery and Equipment	14.5	14.3	13.2	1.4%	9.8%
Special Ind. Mach., Excl. Metalworking	14.6	14.7	14.1	-0.7%	3.5%
Gen. Industrial Mach. and Equip.	15.3	15.3	14.3	0.0%	7.0%
Electrical Machinery, Equip. and Supplies	47.4	47.5	47.7	-0.2%	-0.6%
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	15.6	15.7	15.8	-0.6%	-1.3%
Transportation Equipment	25.6	25.9	32.3	-1.2%	-20.7%
Motor Vehicles and Equipment	18.5	18.7	25.7	-1.1%	-28.0%
Instrument and Related Products	13.1	13.2	12.7	-0.8%	3.1%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	10.2	10.5	10.1	-2.9%	1.0%
Nondurable Goods	224.2	227.9	219.0	-1.6%	2.4%
Food and Kindred Products	70.5	71.6	68.8	-1.5%	2.5%
Meat Products	14.7	15.1	14.3	-2.6%	2.8%
Dairy Products	17.9	18.3	17.8	-2.2%	0.6%
Canning and Preserving	17.9	18.0	17.0	-0.6%	5.3%
Bakery Products	4.9	4.8	4.5	2.1%	8.9%
Beverage Industries	7.7	7.9	7.8	-2.5%	-1.3%
Textile Mill Products	4.2	4.3	4.9	-2.3%	-14.3%
Apparel and Other Finished Products	7.0	7.1	7.3	-1.4%	-4.1%
Paper and Allied Products	50.3	51.8	49.9	-2.9%	0.8%
Pulp and Paper Mills	30.0	31.1	30.2	-3.5%	-0.7%
Printing, Publishing and Allied Products	46.6	47.0	43.9	-0.9%	6.2%
Chemicals and Allied Products	10.5	10.8	10.6	-2.8%	-0.9%
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Products	28.9	28.9	26.7	0.0%	8.2%
Miscellaneous Plastics Products	24.3	24.2	22.2	0.4%	9.5%
Leather and Leather Products	6.0	6.2	6.6	-3.2%	-9.1%

WISCONSIN EARNINGS AND HOURS DATA

EARNINGS AND HOURS Unadjusted SEPTEMBER	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours		
	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago
All Manufacturing (Incl. Canning)	\$452.19	\$439.85	\$443.72	42.3	41.3	41.9
All Manufacturing (Excl. Canning)	456.54	446.04	451.54	42.0	41.3	42.2
Durable Goods	451.44	443.31	448.98	41.8	41.2	42.0
Lumber and Wood Products (Excl. Furniture)	335.32	325.94	323.58	40.4	39.7	40.6
Furniture and Fixtures	372.24	363.37	361.23	42.3	42.8	42.8
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	472.82	481.18	442.13	46.4	47.5	46.2
Primary Metal Industries	454.76	453.90	462.33	42.7	42.7	44.2
Iron and Steel Foundries	472.64	470.24	475.18	44.8	44.7	46.0
Fabricated Metal Products	415.94	417.33	415.71	40.5	40.4	41.2
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	442.37	440.99	437.00	42.7	42.2	43.7
Metal Stampings	472.58	464.63	460.22	41.6	41.3	41.8
Machinery (Excl. Electrical)	521.89	509.75	493.73	43.6	42.8	42.6
Engines and Turbines	541.93	524.56	500.77	40.9	39.5	39.4
Farm Machinery and Equipment	544.42	532.95	536.79	42.8	43.4	43.5
Constr., Mining, Material Handling Machinery	523.77	534.31	519.49	44.2	44.6	44.9
Metalworking Machinery and Equipment	572.10	551.54	550.14	44.8	43.6	44.8
Special Ind. Mach., Excl. Metalworking	558.14	529.20	492.47	45.9	44.1	42.2
Gen. Industrial Mach. and Equip.	455.87	448.86	453.42	41.9	41.6	42.1
Electrical Machinery, Equip. and Supplies	415.74	408.83	427.84	41.0	40.2	41.7
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	433.26	421.20	439.49	41.5	40.5	41.5
Transportation Equipment	591.01	561.60	598.78	40.9	39.0	40.9
Instrument and Related Products	356.18	365.94	406.50	38.8	38.0	42.7
Nondurable Goods	453.22	435.75	435.35	43.0	41.5	41.7
Food and Kindred Products	408.83	390.58	381.75	43.4	41.2	40.1
Meat Products	394.01	384.17	382.27	41.0	41.0	43.0
Dairy Products	412.82	397.80	412.67	41.2	39.9	41.6
Textile Mill Products	331.36	336.16	300.24	44.9	43.6	41.7
Apparel and Other Finished Products	277.93	256.78	278.39	39.2	37.0	40.7
Paper and Allied Products	626.82	600.15	615.79	46.5	45.5	46.3
Pulp and Paper Mills	684.79	645.74	670.20	47.0	45.7	46.9
Printing, Publishing and Allied Products	469.78	451.04	439.56	41.5	40.2	39.6
Chemicals and Allied Products	403.00	404.64	397.76	38.9	39.4	38.1
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Products	359.57	343.09	355.73	41.0	39.3	41.9
Leather and Leather Products	257.87	244.84	250.33	37.7	35.9	37.7

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS Unadjusted SEPTEMBER	Including Overtime			Excluding Overtime		
	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago
All Manufacturing (Incl. Canning)	\$10.69	\$10.65	\$10.59	\$10.14	\$10.17	\$10.05
All Manufacturing (Excl. Canning)	10.87	10.80	10.70	10.34	10.33	10.16
Durable Goods	10.80	10.76	10.69	10.34	10.34	10.19
Lumber and Wood Products (Excl. Furniture)	8.30	8.21	7.97	7.95	7.90	7.68
Furniture and Fixtures	8.80	8.49	8.44	8.53	8.29	8.07
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	10.19	10.13	9.57	9.14	9.31	8.88
Primary Metal Industries	10.65	10.63	10.46	10.07	10.04	9.78
Iron and Steel Foundries	10.55	10.52	10.33	9.90	9.83	9.55
Fabricated Metal Products	10.27	10.33	10.09	9.85	9.92	9.66
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	10.36	10.45	10.00	9.85	9.97	9.44
Metal Stampings	11.36	11.25	11.01	10.92	10.77	10.48
Machinery (Excl. Electrical)	11.97	11.91	11.59	11.45	11.44	11.00
Engines and Turbines	13.25	13.28	12.71	12.99	13.06	12.09
Farm Machinery and Equipment	12.72	12.28	12.34	12.25	11.83	11.70
Constr., Mining, Material Handling Machinery	11.85	11.98	11.57	11.39	11.52	11.07
Metalworking Machinery and Equipment	12.77	12.65	12.28	12.01	12.04	11.61
Special Ind. Mach., Excl. Metalworking	12.16	12.00	11.67	11.29	11.30	11.07
Gen. Industrial Mach. and Equip.	10.88	10.79	10.77	10.39	10.32	10.24
Electrical Machinery, Equip. and Supplies	10.14	10.17	10.26	9.78	9.84	9.78
Electrical Industrial Apparatus	10.44	10.40	10.59	10.12	10.12	10.16
Transportation Equipment	14.45	14.40	14.64	13.87	13.97	14.01
Instrument and Related Products	9.18	9.63	9.52	8.85	9.28	9.12
Nondurable Goods	10.54	10.50	10.44	9.86	9.93	9.83
Food and Kindred Products	9.42	9.48	9.52	8.70	8.89	8.88
Meat Products	9.61	9.37	8.89	9.07	8.81	8.36
Dairy Products	10.02	9.97	9.92	9.54	9.50	9.33
Textile Mill Products	7.38	7.71	7.20	6.87	7.21	6.92
Apparel and Other Finished Products	7.09	6.94	6.84	6.89	6.82	6.58
Paper and Allied Products	13.48	13.19	13.30	12.59	12.44	12.44
Pulp and Paper Mills	14.57	14.13	14.29	13.63	13.37	13.33
Printing, Publishing and Allied Products	11.32	11.22	11.10	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Chemicals and Allied Products	10.36	10.27	10.44	10.04	9.92	10.09
Rubber and Misc. Plastics Products	8.77	8.73	8.49	8.34	8.39	8.11
Leather and Leather Products	6.84	6.82	6.64	6.65	6.63	6.45

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SUMMARY OF RECENT WISCONSIN DATA

EARNINGS AND HOURS, MFG. Production Workers (Unadjusted)	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS					
							INCL. OVERTIME			EXCL. OVERTIME		
	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago	Latest Month	Month Ago	Year Ago
SEPTEMBER												
United States	\$433.19	\$425.95	\$423.33	41.1	40.8	41.3	\$10.54	\$10.44	\$10.25	.....	.....	.....
Wisconsin	452.19	439.85	443.72	42.3	41.3	41.9	10.69	10.65	10.59	10.14	10.17	10.17
Appleton-Oshkosh (Calumet- Winnebago-Outagamie)	521.70	502.24	490.16	44.1	43.0	43.3	11.83	11.68	11.32	11.17	11.15	11.15
Eau Claire (Eau Claire- Chippewa)	466.76	470.24	449.59	43.5	43.5	41.9	10.73	10.81	10.73	10.15	10.24	10.24
Green Bay (Brown County)	489.56	450.64	484.21	41.7	40.2	42.4	11.74	11.21	11.42	11.00	10.74	10.74
Janesville-Beloit (Rock Co.)	502.14	489.06	501.25	40.3	38.6	40.1	12.46	12.67	12.50	11.85	12.11	12.11
Kenosha (County)	488.02	497.03	509.60	42.4	42.7	40.0	11.51	11.64	12.74	11.03	11.15	11.15
La Crosse (County)	392.18	383.27	366.71	41.5	39.8	40.7	9.45	9.63	9.01	9.12	9.38	9.38
Madison (Dane County)	421.88	417.13	416.33	42.4	41.3	42.7	9.95	10.10	9.75	9.52	9.68	9.68
Milwaukee (Milwaukee-Ozaukee- Washington-Waukesha)	480.48	473.88	484.78	41.6	41.1	41.9	11.55	11.53	11.57	10.99	11.00	11.00
Racine (County)	446.31	450.96	428.93	40.5	40.7	39.9	11.02	11.08	10.75	10.55	10.56	10.56
Sheboygan (County)	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA	INA
Wausau (Marathon County)	445.59	436.82	428.56	43.6	42.7	42.6	10.22	10.23	10.06	9.59	9.64	9.64

INA - Information Not Available due to budget reductions

MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT Unadjusted SEPTEMBER	(In Thousands)			% CHANGE	
	Latest Mo.	Mo. Ago	Yr. Ago	Mo/Ago	Yr/Ago
United States	19709.0	19730.0	19587.0	-0.1%	0.6%
Wisconsin	561.0	566.3	561.6	-0.9%	-0.1%
Appleton-Oshkosh (Calumet-Winnebag- Outagamie)	53.4	53.6	54.0	-0.4%	-1.1%
Eau Claire (Eau Claire-Chippewa)	11.8	12.1	11.5	-2.5%	2.6%
Green Bay (Brown County)	27.0	27.3	25.7	-1.1%	5.1%
Janesville-Beloit (Rock County)	17.0	17.1	18.5	-0.6%	-8.1%
Kenosha (County)	9.7	9.7	14.1	0.0%	-31.2%
La Crosse (County)	11.1	11.0	11.1	0.9%	0.0%
Madison (Dane County)	25.1	25.6	24.8	-2.0%	1.2%
Milwaukee (Milwaukee-Ozaukee- Washington-Waukesha)	177.2	176.1	174.8	0.6%	1.4%
Racine (County)	26.3	26.1	25.9	0.8%	1.5%
Sheboygan (County)	INA	INA	INA		
Wausau (Marathon County)	14.2	14.5	13.9	-2.1%	2.2%

PROJECTION 2000: ENOUGH WORKERS

by Joseph Tumpach, Jr.

According to projections made by Wisconsin's Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations, employment will have grown by 354 thousand between 1986 and the year 2000. That amounts to an average of over 25 thousand new jobs for the remainder of this century. Of course, some of that growth has taken place during the last three years. And, during the last three years, unemployment has decreased to the lowest level in the 1980's decade. Labor force participation by those 16 years old and older has increased steadily.

Limits to labor force and employment growth do exist. We can put unemployed workers to work, but we will always have a number of unemployed. That is because workers quit jobs to seek other employment, because there are always new entrants and re-entrants into the labor force who take time to get jobs. When our unemployed consist wholly of such persons, we are at the full-employment unemployment-level. Many economists have stated that exists at about a 4.5 percent unemployment rate - a rate at which the nation and Wisconsin have been hovering near for several months. In other words, it will be increasingly difficult to increase employment by drawing off the unemployment rolls.

Another constraint to employment growth is population growth. Officially and legally, any individual of age 16 years and older is labor force age. Naturally, older people do retire from jobs; some at 55 years of age, or even earlier, some much later than 65 years old. If the number of youth reaching 16 years old exceeds the number of adults reaching retirement age, our labor force population grows. And if the labor force participation rates remain constant, the labor force will grow due to population growth alone.

Labor force participation rates, however, do change. During the last two decades, it is a combination of both population growth and increasing labor force participation rates, particularly for women, that produced unprecedented labor force and employment growth.

Will our state's population be large enough between now and the twenty-first century to accommodate the projected employment growth of 354 thousand? And what labor force participation conditions will be necessary to ensure enough workers will join the labor force?

Changes in population occur over a long period - usually years, rather than months. Therefore, we can fairly accurately project what our population will be several years from now. Such population projections have been prepared by the state's Demographic Services Center within the Department of Administration. The projectors analyze population by age and gender, and account for birth and death rates and for migration to and from the state. The dominant feature of the state's, as well as the nation's, population is the large spate of births in the third quarter of this century, the so called Post War Baby Boom.

Members of that generation have now aged to about thirty years of age and are strongly attached to the labor force. Following the baby boom, birth rates dropped precipitously. And it is those born since about 1970, in the birth-death years, who are now entering labor force age. Between 1987 and the year 2000, Wisconsin's 16 through 19 year old population will have grown by under nine thousand. If sixty percent of that growth enters the labor force, about normal for that age group, the group's contribution to

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS

total labor force growth will amount to less than 5,400. In view of the projected total labor force growth, this is a small contribution.

There are some implications resulting from the slow growth of teenage population. First, teenage workers have historically had very high unemployment rates. As the number of teen workers and job seekers grows more and more slowly, the impact of teen unemployment upon the total unemployment rate will lessen. And, teens who do join the labor force will likely find jobs quickly. Second, the newly enacted minimum wage law provides for a training wage at less than the \$4.25 per hour standard. The training wage applies only to teenage workers and was included to aid business survival of those employers who depend on a less expensive teenage labor market. Yet, to the extent that teenagers comprise the minimum wage labor force, employers may have difficulty recruiting from an already lean supply of teenage population.

Wisconsin's population of age 20 through 24 years old in the year 2000 were not old enough in 1987 to have been in the labor force. Thus, regardless of the labor force participation rate of those individuals, they will contribute to labor force growth. On the other hand, a very large number of people will age out of the 20 through 24 year-old bracket. The net result is that the number of 20 through 24 year olds in our population will decrease by over 40 thousand between 1987 and 2000. Correspondingly, the state's labor force will contain 36 thousand fewer workers of that age.

At the other end of the age spectrum, retiring workers diminish the size of

the labor force. Far and away, most job openings result from replacement of those leaving the labor force. For the labor force to grow, new workers and workers re-entering the labor force must out number those retiring.

The state's population in the 55 through 64 year old group is projected to decrease by nearly 12 thousand by the turn of the century. And, labor force withdrawal becomes pronounced in that age cohort. Labor force members of that age will decrease by nearly 24 thousand by the year 2000.

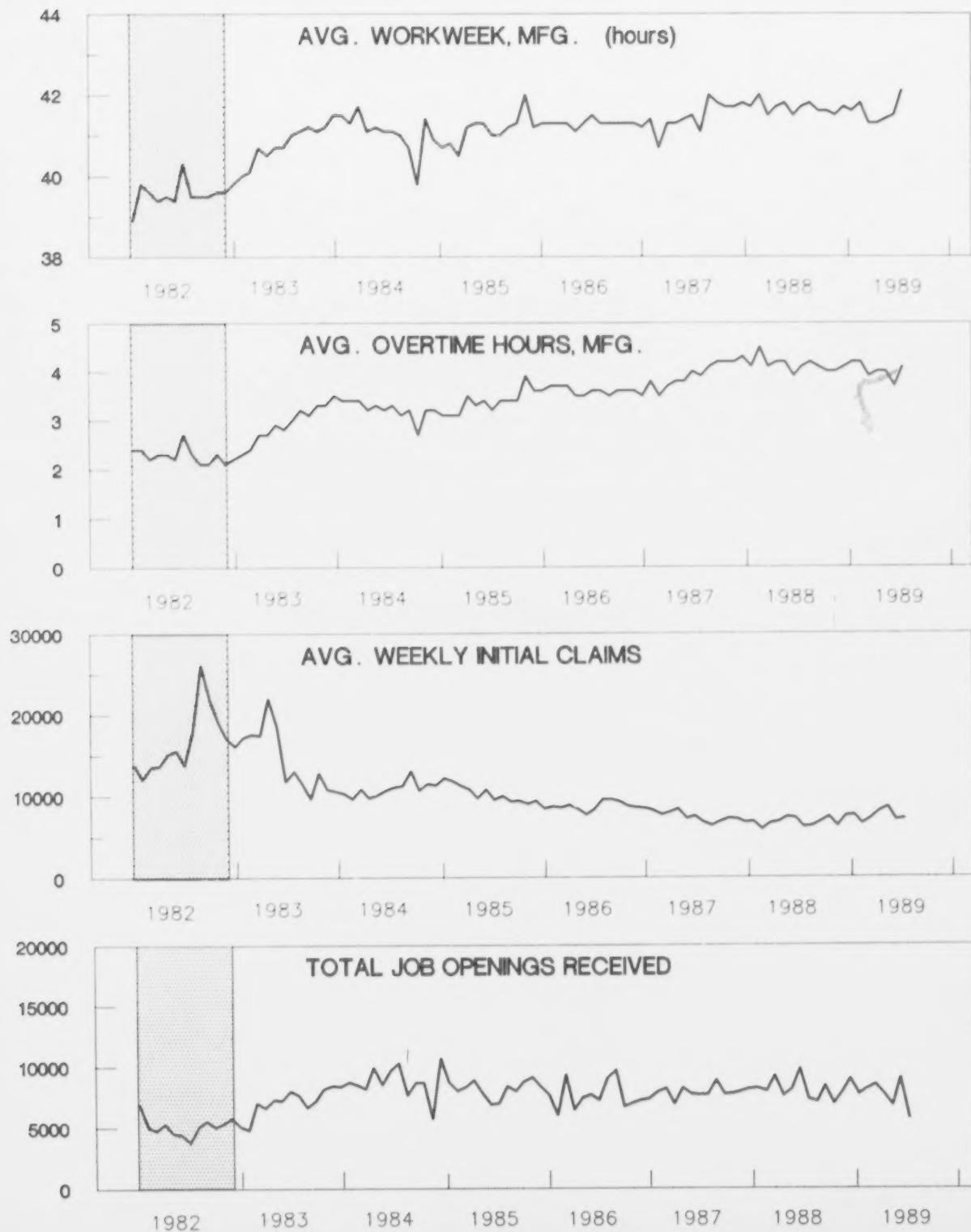
The population of age 65 and over will increase dramatically. There will be an increase of over 113 thousand people of age 65 and over in the state by the year 2000. However, the labor force participation rate is projected to be less than ten percent of the entire age group. Consequently, there will be about 7 thousand fewer of these workers in the labor force.

Balancing young workers entering the labor force against the labor force withdrawals, we have: age 16 through 24, about 30 thousand fewer new workers; age 55 and over, about 31 thousand fewer workers.

Where, then, will the supply of workers come from if employment is projected to grow by 354 thousand? The answer is that large swell of population, the Baby Boomers, many of which are already in the labor force. The population which will be 35 through 54 years old in the year 2000 will have grown by over 445 thousand. That segment of our population will comprise 59 percent of our labor-force-age population. That, coupled with an increase of the labor force participation rate for that group, will ensure an adequate supply of workers for employment growth.

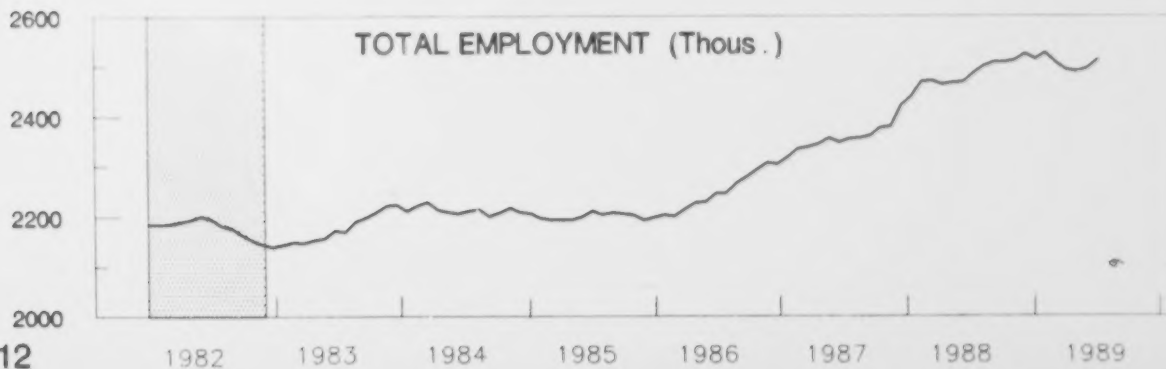
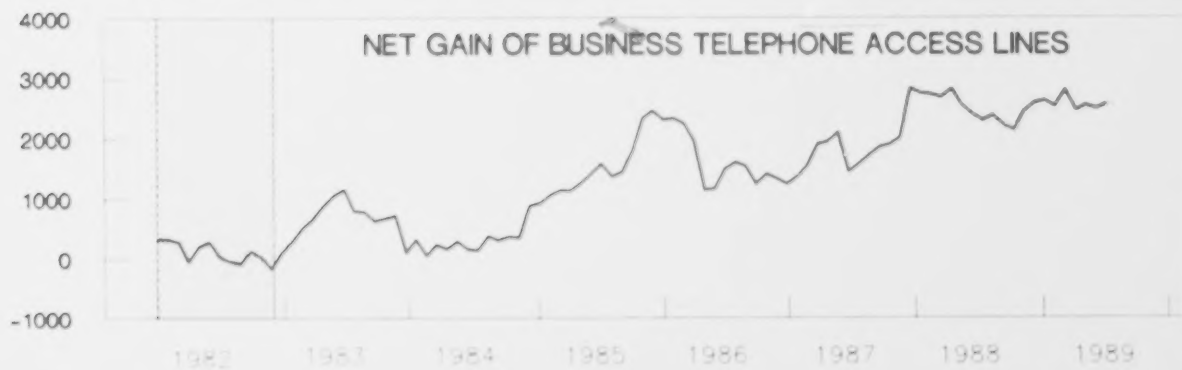
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